

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 AID-05 OPR-01 DPW-01 SY-04

USSS-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NIC-01 CU-02 A-01 FBO-02 OC-01

CCO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 PER-01 EB-07 SIL-01 LAB-04 /107 W

----- 110223

R 190755Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3540

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 5607

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, VS, VN

SUBJECT: LATEST STOCKHOLM VIETNAM ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY: SWEDEN'S PRO-HANOI LOBBY IS ATTEMPTING TO GENERATE ENTHUSIASM FOR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES CELEBRATING THE "BIRTHDAY" OF THE FNL ON DECEMBER 21 AND THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON JANUARY 27. A FEATURE OF EFFORT IS A JOINT FOUR-PARTY STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT AND "THOSE WHO SUPPORT ITS POLICIES". THE STATEMENT AVOIDS CONDEMNING USG BY NAME. WE HAVE DETECTED LITTLE INTEREST IN THE PRESS OR GENERAL PUBLIC TOWARD THIS CAMPAIGN. END SUMMARY.

1. THE SWEDISH HANOI LOBBY IS BUSILY ORGANIZING A RALLY AND OTHER EVENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE "BIRTHDAY" OF THE FNL ON DECEMBER 21 (THE TRADITIONAL BIRTHDAY, CELEBRATED HERE FOR SOME YEARS IS ON DECEMBER 20, BUT SATURDAY IS A BETTER DAY FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DEMONSTRATIONS). THE RALLY WILL START IN DOWNTOWN STOCKHOLM

AND DEMONSTRATORS WILL MARCH TO THE AMEMBASSY ABOUT MID-AFTERNOON. WE EXPECT THAT POLICE PROTECTION WILL BE MORE THAN ADEQUATE, AS USUAL. THE SIZE OF THE CROWD WILL DEPEND VERY MUCH ON THE WEATHER, BUT SINCE THIS IS A HOLIDAY PERIOD IT MIGHT ATTRACT MORE EXCITEMENT-SEEKERS THAN USUAL.

2. IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE, THE LEADERS OF FOUR OF THE FIVE POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE RIKSDAG HAVE ISSUED A JOINT STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT. THE LEADER OF THE MODERATE (CONSERVATIVE) PARTY, GOSTA BOHMAN, STATED THAT HE WOULD NOT JOIN IN THE STATEMENT BECAUSE IT WAS HIS PARTYS POLICY NOT TO ENGAGE IN SUCH ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE THE RIKSDAG. HE DID NOT OBJECT TO THE TEXT.

3. THE STATEMENT CONDEMNS THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT AND "THOSE WHO SUPPORT ITS POLICIES" FOR THE LACK OF PEACE IN VIETNAM. THE USG IS NOT MENTIONED BY NAME. IT FURTHER STATES: "WE REPEAT THE DEMANDS FOR PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE FOR THE PEOPLE OF VIETNAM. WE DEMAND THAT THE PARIS AGREEMENT BE OBSERVED. WE URGE THOSE WHO SIGNED THE AGREEMENT TO CONSIDER THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS REALIZATION ... STILL NOT CARRIED OUT ARE THE AGREEMENTS ON AN ARMISTICE AND ON ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL COUNCIL, HOLDING OF FREE ELECTIONS, RESPECT FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS, RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND THE RIGHT OF PRISONERS TO RETURN HOME. THOSE WHO DEMAND ACTIONS ON THESE POINTS ARE PERSECUTED, SILENCED, IMPRISONED OR MURDERED." POUCHING FULL TEXT.

3. IN ADDITION TO PARTY SUPPORT, THE HANOI LOBBY IS ATTEMPTING TO GET MANY OTHER GROUPS, SUCH AS LABOR GROUPS AND CHURCHES, TO CONCUR. THERE WILL BE AN ATTEMPT TO KEEP ENTHUSIASM GOING UNTIL JANUARY 27 WHEN A "GIANT" RALLY IS PLANNED TO CELEBRATE THE TWO-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT. ACCORDING TO THE NEWSPAPERS EITHER PRIMIN PALME OR FORNMIN ANDERSSON WILL SPEAK AT THE JANUARY RALLY.

4. COMMENT: THIS ACTIVITY IS FAINTLY REMINISCENT OF THE FIVE-PARTY STATEMENT AND RALLIES IN DECEMBER, 1972, BUT IT IS PATHETIC BY THE STANDARDS OF THOSE DAYS WHEN, FOR INSTANCE, THERE WAS NO HESITATION TO CONDEMN THE USG BY NAME, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PUBLICITY FLOODED ALL MEDIA, AND MANY THOUSANDS WOULD TURN OUT FOR DEMONSTRATIONS. PUBLICITY SO FAR FOR THIS EFFORT IS VERY MODEST, DEMONSTRATING THE GENERALLACK OF INTEREST IN THE VIETNAM ISSUE. A SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC RIKSDAGSMAN MENTIONED TO AN EMBOFF THAT THE PARTIES WERE ENGAGING IN THIS ACTIVITY MAINLY TO SATISFY THEIR YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS, AND THERE WAS LITTLE ENTHUSIASM IN PARTY CIRCLES TO MAKE A BIG THING OF IT.

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